

True American.

2. RAGAN, Editor.
STUBENVILLE.
THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1855

Since the Supreme Court, of Ohio, has decided, the law restraining the sale of intoxicating liquors, to be in accordance with the constitution of the State, the people appear to have taken a decided stand, in favor of the enforcement of its provisions. They have determined, as far as is in their power, to wipe the stain of drunkenness from the land. They are no longer willing to see the food of millions converted into liquid poison, and retailed in draughts, that sweep thousands to a drunkard's grave. They have aroused from that lethargic slumber, that has so long held them in its somniferous embrace; and declared, in the deep-toned voice of injured freemen, "we will no longer warm the viper that it may sting our happiness." No longer shall the "strong arm of the law" be extended to protect those who hold the tempting glass to the inebriates lips, and plunge him down the "dread abyss" that yawns beneath his trembling feet. The glittering shield, that has so long blazed before them, and formed a rampart impregnable to all the assaults of an injured community, whose most sacred rights have been trampled in the dust, has at length been beaten down, by the united efforts of an indignant people; and no longer affords a "city of refuge" for those who have sacrificed the noblest feelings of the human heart upon the shrine of avarice. Let those who are engaged in this pernicious traffic, beware. They can surely hear the "low mutterings of the gathering storm" that will soon burst upon them. The time has passed when they could tamper with the lives and welfare of their fellow-men, and not incur the penalty of their crimes.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

Ocean Mail Steamer Bill Vetoed.

We are decidedly in favor of the exercise of the Veto power, upon the part of the President of the United States, when it is manifest, as in the above case, that the bill is passed by fraud, bribery and stratagem, on the part of Congress and those who have a pecuniary interest involved in the issue.

The bill was evidently forced through Congress in a very hasty and indiscreet manner, and there is evidence tolerably clear, that there was fraud practised in order to secure its passage. There were some most marvelous charges occurred in the action of several members of Congress, shortly before the passage of the bill. The company, with Mr. Collins as one of the principals were by the bill to receive \$850,000 for the coming year. Other responsible companies offered to perform the same amount of service for the Government for less than the one half of that amount.

There are many treasury eaters at Washington, who seem determined to swallow up the remaining funds in the National Treasury. We are glad that the President has set his heel and foot upon such unjustifiable appropriations. By so doing he has fixed a dignity upon his executive character.

There has been considerable excitement in the city and country, for some days past, originating in the sudden and mysterious disappearance of a stranger, from the Norton Hotel, on 4th street. Various rumors have been in circulation; a company of boys were said to have seen him near the basin of the Water Works. A hole was said to be cut in the ice—two men were said to be seen carrying a load in the direction of the basin, much resembling the body of a dead man; a stray hat had been found near the basin, &c., &c. Hence, as a matter of humanity, the basin must be drained, which was done with despatch. No dead body found. Still it remains a mystery. At length the mystery is cleared up. It appears that a fellow, calling himself BELT, hired a span of horses from a gentleman in Zanesville, for the professed purpose of coming to St. Clairsville; on reaching there he tried to sell them, but failed, he then proceeded to this point, and failing here also to accomplish his object, he concluded to leave the horses in the possession of Mr. Hamilton, withdraw from the bustle of the city, and repair to parts unknown. The owner of the property is hourly expected from Zanesville.

UNION MILL.—We invite the attention of the citizens of Steubenville and vicinity, to the Union Mill, where they can be accommodated with any quantity of Corn Meal, by wholesale or retail, at fair prices—of excellent quality—likewise grinding done for customers on short notice. Rye, Oats, Barley &c. chopt at the Union Mill, by John M'Feely, west end of Market street, near Wallace's factory. We hope our young friend will be liberally patronized in his new and prize-worthy enterprise.

Court is still in session, and an unusual number of witnesses have been in attendance for the last ten days. Some important cases have been decided, and others laid over. Our friends from the country appear to be in fine spirits, and the impression is that there will shortly be a general revival of trade.

For the True American. THE NEXT GOVERNOR.

MR. EDITOR:—The question—"Who shall be the candidate of the Republican party for Governor of Ohio?" is one of considerable importance, and should be discussed with candor and impartiality. The party is composed of the Anti-Slavery portions of the Whig and Democratic parties, in union with the Independent Democracy. The party was organized for the purpose of effectually resisting the influence of the Slave Power in affairs of the government, and of subordinating the government to the cause of human liberty, the purpose for which it was "ordained and established."

Whoever, then, becomes the standard bearer of the party, should be a fair embodiment of the principles of the organization. In discussing the merits of those whose names are brought forward in connection with this honorable and responsible position, care should be taken to make fair and truthful representations of the position occupied, and sentiments entertained by them. I regret to say that this is not always done. An instance of this want of candor and fair dealing, I observed in the *Herald* of your city a day or two since.

The editor in noticing the fact that the Hon. SALMON P. CHASE had been named in connection with this office, admits his capacity in the fullest extent, and also that, as a Senator, he has ably and faithfully represented the interests of his State. Now, possessing administrative ability, integrity and faithfulness to the interests of his State, what more is required? The editor fears he is too radical on the slavery subject, for the majority of the party, and thinks there is a necessity for some further declaration of principle on the part of Mr. Chase. Now, is it not somewhat strange, that an intelligent editor, one who has been so long familiar with the current political history of the country as that editor, should this day call for more light with reference to Mr. Chase's views of the subject of Slavery, and of the power of the general government over that institution? Yet so it is. Did the editor of the *Herald* hear the speech of Mr. Chase, delivered in our Court House, in 1852? One would be led to suppose, from the manner in which he alludes to that campaign, and to Mr. C.'s course in it, that he did. If so, he must be exceedingly forgetful, if he is now at fault in relation to that gentleman's views. For full information on this point, I would respectfully refer the editor to a letter addressed by Mr. C. to the Hon. B. F. Butler, of New York, and to another addressed to the Hon. E. P. Edgarton, of Ohio, in both of which he will find ample information on this topic. He will find, also, that Mr. C.'s views are no more radical than those expressed by the Republican party of Jefferson county, and emphatically endorsed by our worthy member of Congress elect. In a word, he will find that Mr. C.'s are a fair representation of the views of nearly every one having sympathy with the cause of human liberty and genuine democratic government.

But it is further alleged that Mr. C. has rendered himself objectionable to very many of the old Whig party, by the course he pursued in the canvass of 1852. It is said that he traversed the State, using his influence to obtain votes for Franklin Pierce, and casting aspersions on the character of the favorite candidate of the Whig party. Now to those who heard Mr. C.'s speeches during that period, all this will appear like one of the most extraordinary cases of forgetfulness. If the speech delivered in Steubenville, be taken as a fair specimen of his efforts elsewhere, we may say without fear of intelligent contradiction, that Mr. Chase did not utter one syllable derogatory to the character of Gen. Scott. To what point, then, were his efforts mainly directed? The answer will be the same in the mind of every one who heard him. After giving a lucid view of his own views, and those of the party with which he acted, his efforts were directed to an exposure of the deep and damning servility of the so called democratic party. It is a significant fact, too, which will be fresh in the recollection of all who were present, that he was cheered by none with more apparent sincerity than by the Whig portion of his audience.

It is true that Mr. Chase was taken by the hand by prominent democrats. But it is also true, that whigs were equally ready to extend to the Hon. Senator, the hand of welcome to our city; and in this they both manifested their appreciation of lofty talent, consecrated to the advocacy of human rights and constitutional liberty. While I know Mr. C. to be every inch a TRUE AMERICAN, I am not aware that he sympathizes with the peculiar views of those who would claim to be par excellence Americans. But believing you to be ready and willing to do justice, even to an opponent, I venture to ask a place in your columns for the foregoing remarks.

JEFFERSON.

A friend thinks that "too much has lately been said by many persons and journals concerning ladies ruining their husbands by extravagance, by buying silk dresses and other expensive articles." He says, that "not once has the use of tobacco, cigars and liquors, by gentlemen, been alluded to, which I am sure is quite as important an item as ladies' silk dresses." This is a fair hit.

For the True American. WRITTEN LANGUAGE NO. 4.

In order to represent all the sounds in the English language, in consequence of the deficiency in the number of letters, it became necessary to use the same letter to represent more than one sound, and thus seemingly supply the defect. But in supplying this want, the matter has been overdone. "The same sound has been frequently represented by different characters." This is the case, especially with the vowels, for there is not one sound represented by one of them that is not represented by every other vowel character in the alphabet.

Thus the character o is used to represent seven different sounds, as in no, not, nor, wolf, more and woman. But the sound o is represented by 34 different characters and combination of characters; as ough in though, can in bean, ew in sew, ow in know, ou in soul, &c., &c. The character e is used to represent four different sounds, as in me, met, her, they. But the sound e is represented by 40 different signs, as, ea in tea, ie in grief, ee in thee, ey in key, ay in quay, eigh in seigh, &c., &c.

Did space permit, I could show how many signs by which each sound is represented. Suffice it to say, that those who have investigated the matter, say that for nineteen vowel and diphthong sounds, we have four hundred and one different ways of representation.

We have twenty-four consonantal sounds represented by eighteen signs. But we find that they are represented in two hundred and fifty-seven different ways. Thus we have six hundred and fifty-eight different ways of representing forty-three sounds.

Now, there being at least six hundred and fifty-eight different ways of representing the sounds in our language; and there being in it, including all the different inflections, upwards of an hundred thousand words, does it not require a most tenacious memory to spell every word correctly.—There being no analogy that can be relied upon, to do it, one must know every individual way of representing every sound, and which individual way is proper for every individual syllable of every individual word. Thus every word is a separate lesson for the memory. Hence, no one can be certain as to the pronunciation of a single word in the English language, which he has only seen written and never heard spoken, and much less likely to write a word correctly which he has never seen, but only heard pronounced.

Is not, then, our language unscientific in its structure? Suppose the science of arithmetic was based upon such principles. Suppose the figure should represent the number three, and that 3 should sometimes mean one, and that 5 and 3 together should occasionally be regarded as only equivalent to two and so on without any rules to guide us when they should signify their true and when their false powers, how long would it take one to become a good arithmetician? No longer than it requires now to become a good speller. Suppose the teacher of music to labor under the same difficulty as the teacher of orthography. Suppose that C in the natural scale was sometimes on one line and sometimes on another, sometimes occupying one space and then again another; and that every other G one should have the same instability, how long would it take him to teach his pupils the principles of the science? Or suppose the keys of his instrument were as whimsical as the letters of the alphabet, what length of time would it take them to become good performers. No longer than it now takes to become good readers.

They might, after much practice and close observation become tolerable musicians, so does the learner of our orthography, by perseverance, become a moderate reader. But the first would be, and the second is liable to mistakes. Where will you find a good reader?—This man is one you may say, and there is another. But set them to reading the same piece and they will vary as much in their pronunciation, inflection, emphasis, articulation, modulation, attention and pauses, quantity and key, the essentials of good reading, as the performers on an imperfect instrument would in their music.

In consequence then, of the great difficulties to be encountered and overcome before even a tolerable knowledge of the English language can be acquired; learning to read has been truly styled "the most difficult of human attainments." The road to knowledge is thus locked up, preventing persons of limited means from gaining access to the various departments of knowledge. Foreigners are thus prevented from acquiring a knowledge of our language. The progress of children in their education is impeded. There are some of the evils of an absurd, unphilosophical, unscientific system of orthography. Can they not be remedied? They can be. They have been. An exposition of the remedy will be presented next week, with which I will close.

We think it is very easy to perceive that New Hampshire will be swept at the ensuing election by the American organization. Our exchanges feel confident and certain of this result.

"SAM'S" PROGRESS.—At the recent election for local officers, in Clarion county, Pennsylvania, "Sam" was triumphant in every borough and township except one.

For the True American. "Fear not little flock, it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Sweet words are those to every true believer. It is one of the brightest promises ever recorded in the Bible. Christian wipe away thy tears, doubt no longer, for thy Saviour has said, fear not, fix thine eye on Calvary and the cross erected there, and thou shalt reach thy haven at last, for the Father has said he will give you the kingdom. Repentant sinner, say not there is no hope; that precious soul of thine must not be lost. Onward, ever onward, then let thy motto be; thou mayest yet wear the crown, for Jesus has said that he is not only willing but it is his good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Bereaved Mother, why clasp thy hands and weep in agony over that tiny mound? God knew that thou loved it, that little departed one, he only took the little lamb in his arms that you might follow, he knows that where the "Treasure is there will the Heart be also" and he would not that one soul should perish, for Jesus died and Salvation is free. Sorrow not, then, as those without hope, for thou mayest yet learn to bless the day when thy bud (promising though it was) was transplanted in Heaven. Blessed promise, go to that congregation, where in earnest prayer kneels a Pastor and his flock, the faithful few with trust unshaken, and well may they hope, for it is the Father's good pleasure to give them the kingdom.—Bright messenger of Heaven, go to the widow and the fatherless, the Pastor and people, the sorrowful and lonely; go to all true Christians in this world of ours, and say to them "Fear not, little flock, it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

ATTEMPT TO JUMP OFF THE BRIDGE.—A Case of Desperation.—Shortly after dark, on Friday night, a distressed young woman named NANCY HALE, hurried on the Suspension Bridge. Reaching the middle thereof, she threw off her mantilla and commenced clambering over with the evident intention of taking a leap into the murky river below. Several pedestrians who happened to be witnesses of the scene immediately clutched her, and forcibly bore her away, leaving her in charge of officer Clemens. While the officer was waiting the instructions of Alderman Wright, she attempted to return for the accomplishment of her fell purpose, but was again prevented. Mr. Clemens finally succeeded in pacifying and persuading her to return home.

The cause assigned for the desperate intent is this: the family with which she was formerly hired, accused her with stealing a gold ring of which charge she is said to be as innocent as a dove. Her accusations, we hope, will consequently feel a sense of burning shame, and a punishment of conscience by no means ordinary. She is said to have a brother of some standing residing on Short Creek, in Brooke county, Va. Poor Nancy! Such troubles to strong minds are light as air.

Wheeler Young American, 5th inst.

DETRACTION.—"An easy, and the only way to make saplings conspicuous, is to lead down the giant oaks by which they are surrounded" was the remark of the Father of his country, Gen. George Washington. The truth of it is unquestionable. And so we perceive present, little minds are busy in making themselves conspicuous by just such efforts.

It was a saying of Socrates, that "A well bred man will not insult me; no other can." If one could at all times bear this in mind, one might, under the sharpest pangs of slander retain that perfect equanimity, that quiet, cool contempt, which Virgil in so masterly a manner gives to Dido when visited in Pluto's realm by Aeneas, who had once slighted her. Virgil makes her turn from him with that silence, more eloquent than words, the keen sarcasm, the cool contempt and supreme indifference of which is more thoroughly felt than would have been the well deserved and bitter reproaches.

Defence both invigorates the tongue of detraction, since virtue and truth are no more obstacles to it than fuel to a raging flame. Is it not then the wiser course to let it rage on, knowing that in the circle which it describes, however large it may be, it will at last return upon itself, and render its own destruction more sure than its greatest opponents could desire?

BACK TRACK.—The young married woman who was reported to have eloped from this city with another woman's husband, some three weeks since, returned last evening. We understand, that immediately on her arrival, she despatched a message to her anxious "worse half," with a request that he would immediately wait upon her. "Hubby," however, was obstinate, and wouldn't go—not he! He had no appetite for damaged bacon, and frigidly declined the proffered repast.—*Lowell Journal.*

OFFER TO SELL THE FUGITIVE BURNS.—Rev. Mr. Grimes, the colored clergyman in this city, stated in the morning prayer-meeting in the Old South Chapel, Monday morning, that he held the written contract of the master of the Fugitive slave Burns, to sell him for the sum of \$1,300. Mr. Grimes also said that he had already raised full one-half of the required sum, and he had no doubt that the rest would be subscribed, and that he should soon have the pleasure of introducing Burns to those who attend that meeting.—*Journal*

SAM AT THE TOWN MEETINGS.

We clip the following from our New York exchanges.

It is quite evident, from the accounts we publish below, that "Sam" is around—and that the old parties will eventually find themselves "no whar."

In Montgomery County the Americans carry 7 of the 10 towns.

Chenango County.—At Elmira; they swept all before them, by majorities varying from 300 to 500. In the town of Southport the American ticket was elected by a very large majority. So far as heard from every town in this county has gone "Sam."

Steuben County.—"Sam" has been here, too, sweeping every thing.

Richmond County.—Every town gone "Sam."

Broome County.—Every town except one, have elected Know Nothing or American Supervisors.

The entire Know Nothing ticket at Coleville Chenango county, was successful by majorities varying from 77 to 200.

Chataque County.—All the towns except three, have given large American majorities.

Lewis County.—Here the Know Somethings are ahead; electing fourteen of their Supervisors, to three Know Nothings, Onondaga Co.—Elects two K. N. Supervisors.

Fredonia, Feb. 20.—400 American majority in the town of Pomfret, for Camp of Dunkirk, for supervisor. The whole ticket elected.

Delaware County.—Know Nothings elect their entire ticket in the town of Kortright.

Roxbury, the entire Know Nothing ticket is elected. Also in Harpersfield, and Middletown. In Davenport the Know Nothings elected all of their ticket, with the exception of two or three. Eleven of the 18 Supervisors are said to be Know Nothings, an intelligent set of pebles, them.

LETTER FROM SENATOR WILSON.—

Washington, Feb. 19.—The American organ of this afternoon, publishes a letter from Senator Wilson, in answer to questions propounded by that paper. He says that he fully recognizes the doctrine of State rights in its application to slavery; that he does not entertain the opinion that Congress has any power to interfere with slavery as it exists under State laws, and that the American organization in Massachusetts does not embrace the subject of slavery among those for the regulation of which it was formed.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

The demand for money is moderate, and the supply superabundant. Rates are without charge, varying from five to seven per cent, for all loans, and six to seven for the discount of good mercantile paper. Second class runs from seven to nine. The banks cannot put out all the money they want, and some are offering to loan at six per cent.

Erie stock advanced $\frac{1}{2}$, Harlem 4, Canton 4, Reading 1 per cent., Cumberland Coal 4, Panama 4, and Illinois Central Railroad bonds 1. Michigan Central declined one-half per cent., Southern Michigan 4, Chicago and Rock Island Railroad stock advanced to 87, Galena and Chicago Railroad stock was offered at 88, but 86 $\frac{1}{2}$ an advance on yesterday's prices, was asked.

Virginia State Stocks continue to be freely offered, but at firm prices. Bank stocks are improving.

There was sent to Boston, last evening, for shipment in the steamer to Liverpool, specie to the amount of \$520,000, and we are informed \$350,000 is already engaged for shipment from this port, by next Wednesday's steamer.

J. C. Lyman, the hotel thief, told the justice at New York, that he had been several years principal of a high school in Maine, but nevertheless was sent to Blackwell's Island for a year to finish his education.

BOSTON, March 5.—In the United States Circuit Court, to-day, the cases against Wendell Phillips, Theodore Parker and others, alleged to be participants in the Burns riot, were taken up and assigned for the 3d of April.

Burns, on Wednesday evening will be present at the reception meeting at Tremont Temple, and on Friday evening he will attend a public meeting at New York.

CINCINNATI, March 5.—Gov. Wright of Indiana, has vetoed the free bank bill. It is said he will also veto the State Bank bill if passed, but the friends of both will unite and pass them notwithstanding the veto.

NEW BEDFORD, March 5.—George Howland, Know Nothing candidate for Mayor, has been elected by a tremendous majority.

HE FROZE HIS FEET.—"Gunwait" Lisbon, sends the following:—A very nice young man, a merchant in our village, is said to have frozen his feet quite bad, one night during the late cold weather, by lying under a pile of boards, to watch the Know Nothings. We sincerely hope this will be a warning to all in pursuit of knowledge under difficulties.

The little snow-birds say that the telegraph wires are shocking had roosting perches.

The Light House.

From the Olive Branch.

Burning still, how beautiful it looks in the distance; just the same as it did years ago from my window at Brick Lodge, with its revolving light gilding the dark waves. And yonder is the old Barracks upon the opposite Island, with a high picket fence, enclosing its bow shaped parade ground, the spread eagle holding in its beak, a heavy lantern over the arched gate-way leading to the porticoed entrance, the wide pavement in front, where the spirited re-veille is played upon life and drum. The sunset roll, was the most suggestive to me, as it floated over land and sea, it told the hour for retiring from the duties of the day—when the gorgeous clouds in the west, which herald a bright to-morrow, had melted into the purple shades of evening, my eyes would wander to the Light House, for I loved to watch its increasing light, through the deepening shadows of night, shining "like a star on the breast of the ocean."

What made it stand so still upon the water, resisting the stormy waves that were dashing the heavy ships about as if they were but mere toys in their angry grasp; did God make it and light it too? These were among my first vague impressions of the Light House. It was an inexhaustible subject, among my go-to-bed stories. On the dark stormy night, when the ice covered twigs of the elm, thrashed against my window-panes, and the wind whistled through the branches and round down the chimney, it seldom failed to draw from my old nurse some painful story of the past, as she gazed out upon the ocean, exclaiming "Lord help the poor sailors this night," then followed a graphic and true story, of outward or homeward bound vessels wrecked upon these shoals, before this cheering light was raised to warn them of their danger.

Many a fond father who had braved the perils of the deep, for months, ay! for years here found a watery grave. As he caught a glimpse of home when the quivering compass needle and chart, assured the weather beaten helmsman that land was near, that land so long looked for, their home. They heeded not the threatening mountain waves lashing their frail bark, for home was close at hand, they could almost feel the pressure of loving arms around their neck, the warm kiss upon their cheek, as the signal gun went booming across the land, telling the weary watching eyes on shore of their approach but alas! no cheering beacon light to guide or warn them in these dark nights upon our coasts, the strained vessel wrestled with the breakers until dashed to pieces upon these hidden rocks, a few hard struggles and all is over.

Ye who sleep upon warm beds, surrounded by all the blessings of home, then murmur not that Providence has debarred you from some fancy created want. Think for a few minutes upon the lot of the storm-tossed sailor; go ask him in his reveries upon the midnight deck how sweet a word is home; however humble, he will tell its priceless value, to him a powerful magnet, sending electric sparks through his benumbed limbs till the current of life flows warm through every vein. Home's queenless beacon-light hung by him who never slumbers nor sleeps, in the breast of every ocean wanderer, thrilling his soul and nerving his arm to duty; when the visions of home flit before him, he is strong for battle "Lord help the poor sailor," first fell upon my ear from lips long since stilled by death, in that little chamber where I first knelt to say the prayer, "Our Father," where I first felt the good night kiss, and took the last look out upon the light, the sweet sleep, no discordant sounds to break my slumbers; if ever awakened by some startling dream, the soothing watchman's cry of "All is well" would assure me 'twas only a dream, the beacon-light was burning still.

Pleasant voices of the night
Chasing all my fears away
And this ever changing light
Shining till the beams of day
Unsealed mine eyes, and tingled the flowers
With its rosy fingered hours.

RUTH CLARENDON.

In Buenos Ayres the anti-Catholic party is now in power. The Romish doctrine trembles—its power wanes—its clergy are without respect. In some parts Rome is but a shadow; holy mother has lost her power, and State Constitutions indicate public sentiment as being in favor of freedom in religion. The State is in advance of the Church. A German Protestant is at the head of the educational department—and there is a Methodist Academy with 150 native boys of Romish parentage. South America is the most liberal of all the Catholic States, and the masses feel the least hostility to Protestants. In some parts, Church and State are nearly divorced. Brazil has most Romish power, but not to be envied even there. Mexico must yield to "manifest destiny," and mystic Babylon must fall!

ACQUITTA.—The case of the State Ohio vs. Wm. B. Rowland, of the Virginia Hotel, Water street, prosecuted on a charge of secreting stolen goods, &c., found in his hotel, has been disposed of. The Grand Jury failed to find a bill against him, it appearing that Mr. Rowland had no knowledge of such goods having been secreted in his hotel. Mr. Rowland's honesty, we never heard questioned prior to this charge. These facts we have been requested to make public as a matter of justice to Mr. Rowland.

Lord John Russell.

This eminent British statesman still scores all claims to the companionship of old fogies. Now in his sixty-third year, he is the same wide awake progressive that he has always been. One month before he was twenty-one years of age, he entered Parliament. He became a young bearer of 'civil and religious liberty,' guaranteed by parliamentary reform. At the age of twenty-three, he wrote a passable biography of a noble relative. While not yet thirty, he took the part of Queen Caroline against George the Fourth. He was all ways in favor of removing the legislative disabilities against the Jews, and he was mover of the great reform bill.—Three times he has left governmental posts, (Paymaster in 1834—Secretary of State for the Home department in 1841—and—First Lord of the Treasury in 1851), after brave displays of political pluck; and now, for the fourth time he pulls off his cabinet cloak and throws it in the faces of his old foggy associates.

On the 23d of January, without any premonitions, any conservative coquetting, any old foggy backing and gulling, the honorable and noble gentleman—President of the Council and member from London—resigned his cabinet place in a curt letter to Lord Aberdeen, phrased as if he might say—"Ask me no delicate questions, and I will give you no indelicate answers." On the 20th, he occupied the attention of the House more than two hours in his reasons—"defining his position," a la Webster. That the step of resignation is eminently one of a progressive anti-foggy character, appears from the criticism of Lord Palmerston in answer—"But the course taken by my noble friend, I humbly submit was not in accordance with the usual practice of public men."

A resolution of inquiry had been proposed into the conduct of the departments having the control of the Crimean operations. My Lord John, not choosing to be made responsible for blunders committed, and being committed, and to be committed in regard to the war, resigns. This is the long and short of his step, and of his two hours' speech in justification.—*N. Y. Sunday Times.*

From the National Intelligencer. DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

The residence in this city of the Hon. Thomas H. Benton, of Missouri, situated on C. street, between Third and Four-and-a-half, was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon, together with nearly all of the furniture, the library, and most unfortunate of all, the manuscript papers of Mr. Benton.

At about three o'clock smoke was discovered issuing from the office, or study, of Mr. Benton, in the second story, and upon opening the door it was found that the room was filled with smoke and flame; and so rapid was the spread of the fire that the family had but little time to save themselves.

Mr. Benton arrived from the Capitol in a brief time, and at once asked respecting his books and papers. One of his daughters, who had taken refuge at Colonel Fremont's, one of the adjacent dwellings, replied: "We have saved nothing, father, but ourselves; your papers are lost." Then let the house burn on," said Mr. Benton, in an apparently calm manner; and for a time he continued to look on the scene with more concern for the men who were at work, encased in icy armor, than for any interest he might be supposed to possess in the perishing property.

The destruction of the dwelling-house, furniture, library, and valuable wardrobe of an entire family, (upon none of which was there any insurance,) of course involves a heavy loss; but all these are of little moment when compared with the accumulated store of manuscripts of one of the most industrious and prolific as well as ablest writers of the times, and whose correspondence has, no doubt, been as voluminous and important as that of any other of our statesmen. Fortunately, Mr. Benton is possessed of the most extraordinary fortitude; and to this we may add, as not unworthy of consideration, nor unimportant to any man in the hour of trial, that the sympathy of a whole community is with him in his hour of calamity.

AMERICANS WILL SUCCEED.—Mr. Sellers, who is said to be a K. N., in debate in the House of Representatives, while alluding to the new party said:

"We shall as certainly obtain possession of the government as there is a God in Heaven; and will administer it with purity without smell of fire on our garments. The gentleman from Virginia might talk as much as he pleased against Know Nothing—they will restore the Government to its original purity."

At a late ball in Baltimore, a gentleman having danced with a young lady whose attractions, both personal and conversational seemed to have made an impression on his sensibilities, asked, on leading her to assist, if he might have the pleasure of seeing her on the following day?

"Why, no, sir," replied the fair one, "I shall be engaged to-morrow evening; but I'll tell you when you can see me."

"I shall be most happy," exclaimed the stricken avain.

"Well, on Saturday night," resumed the lady "you can see me at the foot of Marsh's Market selling cabbage."

If the young man is wise, he'll be there certain, for that girl will make him an excellent wife.